proposals of the Services. Acquisition of items approved by the DAC is undertaken as per the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP).

A joint strategy exists with civil aviation regarding sharing and monitoring of airspace round the clock for combating any threat/ suspected air intrusion threat thereof before it can manifest.

Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) is entrusted with the task of formulating a Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP) to meet the requirements of the three Services based on their threat perceptions and operational challenges.

Strengthening of Coastal Security System

622. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 453 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th July, 2009 and state:

(a) the details of appropriate steps taken or proposed to take to strengthen the coastal surveillance and security in the country;

(b) whether any stations or areas have been identified for installation of radars along the coastal line, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Government has accorded top priority to coastal security and for this purpose an integrated approach has been put in place. The intelligence-sharing mechanism has been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi agency coordination mechanism. The coastal surveillance and patrolling has been enhanced. Joint and operational exercises are taking place on regular basis between Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police and Customs in order to check the effectiveness of the new systems.

(b) and (c) Installation of radars at different places including Andhra Pradesh is part of coastal surveillance mechanism is an on-going process.

Crashes of MIG-21 planes

[]623. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to frequent mishaps, out of 450 single engine Mig-21 planes only 150 to 160 planes are left with Indian Air Force now;

(b) if so, the details of technical status of these planes;

(c) whether Government is taking any steps to improve the condition of these planes;

[]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the details whether Government is providing new planes in place of these planes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The technical condition of the existing aircrafts and requirement for new aircrafts are reviewed by the Government from time to time and necessary measures are taken thereon. This is a continuous process.

Permission to IAF to open fire against Naxalites

624. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IAF has sought permission to open fire against Naxalites in self defence in the event of its Helicopter and crew coming under attack and threat, citing instances of IAF personnel killed on earlier occasions;

(b) whether a specific permission is required when one is entitled to use force for the sake of self defence as per IPC in force; and

(c) what is the real purpose of asking for permission, how long it will take to issue due instruction on this?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) While permission is not required to exercise the right to self-defence, based upon past experience and intelligence input the Indian Air Force has sought approval of the Government for 'Rules of Engagement' for self-defence. These have been proposed to avoid any ambiguity and damage/injury to the helicopter and to the occupants.

Development of medium light helicopters by HAL

†625. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has dropped its projects for development of medium light helicopters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present status of the project started in 2006 for development of light combat helicopters;

(d) whether there is any proposal for export of indigenously developed helicopters; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.